Daily Devotional, November 17, 2020

"Grumblers, Complainers", (Jude 16, NKJV)

"These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage." (Jude 16)

Jude, the brother of James, and half-brother of the Lord Jesus, wrote this epistle to warn against apostasy and false teaching, and exhort believers to faithful living. The words in our text have applications for both unbelievers and believers.

The description is of the child of this world. Here is the man who is never content with those things that God has given him. Here is the woman who will not stop bemoaning her lot in life. The child of the world has set the object of lust, whether it be man, woman, money, or possession, as the idol of life. It is no matter the means to the end for these individuals. Stepping on another person is a matter of course. Such folks will use manipulation to gain a goal. Maybe you know people like this. Maybe you once walked after this manner. Maybe you are doing this now, even unintentionally, but now the word of the Lord has found you out.

Are you a Christian? Have you experienced the grace and mercy of God? Christ has died for you and has gone to heaven to prepare a place for you. And you grumble? I did not hear Jesus grumbling on the road to Calvary. And you complain? "Are the consolations of God too small for you, And the word spoken gently with you? Why does your heart carry you away, And what do your eyes wink at, That you turn your spirit against God, And let such words go out of your mouth?" (Job 15:11-13). Let us be cheerful, patient, and bear through with positive and grateful attitudes. May our dispositions match our Christian confession. May we be straight up with folks, and never manipulative. May true words, God's words, and words which accord with divine principles, proceed from our mouths. May Christ be glorified today in you!